

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 11, 13-15, and 18-22 are active in this application. Claims 1 and 18 are amended with support in the originally filed disclosure at least at paragraphs [0037] and [0038]. Thus, no new matter is added.

The outstanding Office Action rejected Claims 1 and 11-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Hikata (JP 07-094193) and Claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hikata.

At the outset, Applicants and Applicants' representative thank Supervisory Patent Examiner Yuan and Examiner Davis for the courtesy of an interview with Applicants' representative on November 18, 2009. The discussion during that interview is reflected in the amendments and remarks herein.

Applicants note that a response was filed on November 16, 2009 traversing the rejections of the pending claims. The present Supplemental Amendment amends Claims 1 and 18 based on the discussion during the interview and for consistency with the originally filed disclosure.

In light of this and the response filed on November 16, 2009, the pending claims are believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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